(b) if so, the highlights of this fair with background for organising such a fair ;

(c) whether Government have urged upon the participants of the fair to make available text books of academic courses at economical rates ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ;

(e) whether some objectives were behind organising this fair ; and

(f) if so, the details of achievements made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The New Delhi World Book Fair is being organised once in two years since 1972 by the National Book Trust.

(c) to (e) The main objective of the Fair has been to project Indian publishing abroad as well as within the country with special emphasis on the promotion and sale of Indian books. The Fair had no special focus on the publishing of text books.

(f) The number of participants at the Eleventh New Delhi World Book Fair was 984 and the total sale has been estimated at Rs. 10 crores.

Central University Status for Allahabad University

*288. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1124 given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th December, 1993 and state :

(a) what is the present stage of the case for according the status of a Central University to Allahabad University ;

(b) what progress has so far been made in the matter and what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what is the Central Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission has got the current level of Non-Plan expenditure in respect of Allahabad University assessed through a Committee. It has made certain observations on the requirement of Non-Plan funds for the University. The observations of the Committee have been forwarded to Government of Uttar Pradesh and their reply is awaited. An appropriate decision in the matter would be taken after the comments of the Government of Uttar Pradesh are received.

Sales Outlets of National Seeds Corporation

*289. SHRI G PRATHAPA REDDY :
DR SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) how many sales outlets of the National Seeds Corporation exit in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra :

(b) what is their annual turnover State-wise ;

(c) whether more outlets will be opened in these States ; and

(d) whether more dealerships or agencies will be given ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) The number of sales outlets in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra is 132 and 335 respectively

(b) Annual turnover of the sales outlets in Andhra Pradesh was Rs. 47.23 lakhs in 1992-93 and Rs. 41.60 lakhs in 1993-94 (upto February, 1994). Annual turnover of the sales outlets in Maharashtra was Rs. 270.97 lakhs in 1992-93 and Rs. 392.33 lakhs in 1993-94 (upto February, 1994).

(c) and (d) The National Seeds Corporation has programmes to open more sales outlets, grant dealerships/agencies to cater to the needs of the farmers in these two

States if there is adequate demand in the market.

गेहूं और चावल के खरीद-मूल्य और विक्रय-मूल्य में अन्तर

*290. **श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री :** क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय खाद्य निगम गेहूं और चावल के खरीद-मूल्य और विक्रय-मूल्य में कितना-कितना अन्तर है;

(ख) क्या इस अन्तर का मुख्य कारण भारतीय खाद्य निगम में खाद्यान्नों के रख-रखाव का भारी खर्च है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो खरीद-मूल्य का कितना प्रतिशत खाद्यान्नों के रख-रखाव पर खर्च होता है; और

(घ) इस खर्च को कम करने के लिए सरकार ने अब तक क्या कदम उठाये हैं और इस संबंध में और क्या-क्या कदम उठाये जायेंगे ?

खाद्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्पनाथ राय) : (क) गेहूं और चावल के लिए भारतीय खाद्य निगम के वसूली मूल्य और केन्द्रीय निगम मूल्य इस समय निम्नानुसार हैं :--

(रु०/क्विंटल)

	वसूली मूल्य	केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्य (भारतीय खाद्य निगम के गोदामों से)
गेहूं	330.05	402.00
चावल (अखिल भारतीय भारित औसत)		
साधारण	527.00	537.00
बढ़िया	580.00	617.00
उत्तम	624.00	648.00

मजबूत बनाई गई सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के क्षेत्रों में वितरण करने के लिए सहायता किए जा रहे इन खाद्यान्नों के केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्य पर्युक्त मूल्यों से 50 रु० प्रति क्विंटल कम हैं।

(ख) जी, नहीं । यह अन्तर मुख्यतया अभिवृद्ध वसूली प्रासंगिक खर्चों के कारण है । भारतीय खाद्य निगम को ये खर्चे वसूली मूल्यों के अलावा करने पड़ते हैं । इन खर्चों में मुख्यता क्रय कर, मंडी कर, बोरियों के मूल्य और श्रम प्रभार आते हैं और जो कुल मिलाकर, भारतीय खाद्य निगम के नियंत्रण के बाहर होते हैं ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(घ) बफर स्टाक रखने की लागत को कम करने और उनका बेहतर प्रबंध करने के उद्देश्य से भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने भण्डारण क्षमता का इष्टतम उपयोग करने, बढ़ती हुई भंडारण लागत, मार्गस्थ और भण्डारण हानियों आदि को कम करने के लिए गेहूं/चावल की खुले बाजार में बिक्री करने जैसे कई कदम उठाए हैं/उठा रहा है ।

Endangered Varieties of Rice

*291. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Statesman of 24th January, 1994 to the effect that all but 300 of the 50,000 varieties of rice grown in India are endangered and are likely to go extinct in the following decade ; and

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated by Government to protect and preserve these endangered varieties of rice ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) Yes, Sir, However the statement which appeared in the Statesman regarding rice varieties becoming extinct is not correct.